

HAPPY
New Year

*PICT wishes all
its readers
a Happy, Healthy
and Prosperous
New Year*



contents

Charity Lunch 2022	02
From the Editor's Pen	03
Trustees' Report 2021	03
Angling Section	04
Tennis Section	05
SHANKS Section	07
Ski Section	09
Cricket Section	09
Charity Golf	09
PICT Bulletin	10
London Pride Society	13
200 Club	20
Easy Reference	21

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All systems go for Annual Lunch!



At long last, and barring another lockdown (or perhaps a plague of locusts!!) it looks as though the PICT Annual Lunch is now all systems go for Friday 11th March 2022.

So, just to recap, although I'm sure most of you know this off by heart by now – the PICT Annual Lunch will now be held on the date as mentioned above, at the Park Plaza Riverbank Hotel on London's South Bank (our usual venue).

We are also fortunate that the entertainer that was booked for the lunch in 2020, Paul Sinha (one of the chasers on the ITV quiz show), is still able to join us on the new date.

With regards tickets to the event, just to reiterate, if you already had a ticket for the 2020 lunch, and you are still happy to do so, the ticket will still be transferred to the new 2022 date. If, however, you haven't

already secured your ticket and would like to attend, or would perhaps like further tickets, the prices are: members £100 and guests £115. And all you need to do is contact PICT Secretary Anne James and she will ensure you receive a ticket for the lunch.

It has also been agreed that the AGM will be held in the hotel beforehand, as usually has happened, so this enables members to attend this meeting and then still have time to meet with their colleagues for a drink before the lunch itself.

Please remember, the PICT Annual Lunch is the charity's main fundraiser and as it has not been held for two years, the charity has been hit quite hard (like most charities) – so please do come along and support the lunch. Make a note in your diary of the new date, and just to reiterate the quest for PICT remains unchanged – to support those who will, who are and who have supported our great industry and who are now in need of our support. And remember, by joining in you get to have a great day of good food, friendship and fun and it helps a good and needed cause. A Win:Win situation all round. So please contact Anne now to secure your place at the 2022 Annual Lunch.

Margaret Curle





May I first wish you all a very happy new year and hope that you managed to have a slightly better Christmas than last year – in the fact that, hopefully, you were able to meet up with friends and relatives.

In my comment last year, I mentioned that the COVID vaccines were just being rolled out, and hoped that some normality would return in 2021. Well, we are now all double vaxxed and boosted, and although there is a small amount of normality it's not yet back to the 'real' normal – let's hope 2022 continues going forward in some form of recovery.

In the meantime, unless things change dramatically, let's hope that the PICT Annual Lunch will be able to go ahead in March, so don't forget to contact Anne James for a ticket if you have not already secured one. Obviously, this event is the Charity's main fundraiser and as the lunch has not been able to take place for the last two years, it needs to raise as much monies as it can to enable it to continue its good works. And on this subject, on pages 10 and 11 there is

a report about the good works that PICT does – although these accounts are anonymous it gives you a good idea of what the Charity does with the monies and the type of help it gives to those that need it. Please do read the article.

While on the subject of fundraising, PICT's 200 Club is desperately seeking participants. The outlay for you each year is quite small and you have the chance of winning some money back, as there are four draws each year. You can either join as an individual, or a company can buy a number of shares for its employees. So have a think about it and read the information on the 200 Club on page 20.

The PICT sports sections also contribute to the Charity's coffers, and fortunately in 2021 most of the events managed to take place, which not only provided PICT with some much-needed revenue, but also gave the participants an enjoyable and fun day out. These sporting sections are always on the look out for further people, so please do consider having a go and joining in – you just need to contact the relevant sport secretaries.

I have once again continued the Members' Anecdotes feature and, in this particular issue, have some excellent stories – please do keep them coming – it's great to get an insight into some of our members' lives as well as making some good reading!

As mentioned in the summer newsletter, that sadly Mike Windett had passed away, in this issue there is a tribute to this gentleman from the paper trade by one of his paper industry friends, Peter Bothwick. And while on this subject, I would like to add that Apsley Paper Trail (APT) lost one of its own in 2021. Steve Fuller, a lifelong papermaker, was head papermaker at Frogmore Paper Mill, when APT took over the Mill in 2000 (it was then owned by The British Paper Company), and he continued to work at Frogmore until his retirement a few years ago. His son Gary still works at the mill making both machine-made papers on the small Fourdrinier machine and handmade papers. I worked with Steve when I was at APT and took what I thought was a brilliant picture of him – see page 15!!

Now before I finish, I would just like to give you a quick reminder that the PICT subscriptions were due on the 1st January – so if you haven't already paid, please do get those monies off.

Finally, I would like, once again, to wish all our readers a happy and healthy 2022 and look forward to seeing you all at the Annual Lunch and the AGM prior to it – I have my black sequined face mask at the ready!!

Margaret Curle

trustees' report

Another difficult year for everyone is now coming to an end, with prospects for more challenges ahead. However, whatever the future holds within the paper and board industry, the presence of PICT as a charitable support vehicle will be maintained.

Elsewhere in this Newsletter, we have re-stated our purpose and our determination to support our industry colleagues. We have also given reminders of some of the specific assistance that PICT has provided over the last few years. We would urge everyone to

absorb this information, in order to be fully aware of the scope of help that may be obtained from PICT.

Our thanks to all PICT members and friends for staying with us during 2021. May we take this opportunity to say we hope you had a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. Let us all hope that things will be more stable in 2022.

Best wishes

From the Trustees of PICT



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RIVER TEST, ROMSEY, HANTS – Monday 25th October 2021

Due to Covid disrupting plans for the year coupled with my resignation as Angling Secretary, our outing to the River Test was the first and only angling meeting of 2021.

It turned out to be a cracker of an event with a record number of anglers, 33, prepared to descend on this famous chalk stream just outside Romsey in Hampshire. Such is the popularity that people had come from as far as Torquay in the West, Ipswich in the East and Huntingdon in the North with the majority made up of visitors from Herts and Sussex.

After an early morning squall of rain, the weather cleared to blue sky and sunshine apart from one more shower just before lunch, but without rain there would be no rivers and no fishing!

The new Covid system sees me collecting envelopes from participants before letting them through the gate and this worked very smoothly as all were parked and tackling up when I joined them at about 9.00am. I took a very relaxed approach and did not cover much of the 2½ mile length that we now fish and stopped to chat to those who I passed. It is very

difficult to get any idea of how much success people were having due to the distances, but slowly reports of catches started to be heard. Lunch was taken around the table this year for as many of those who turned up, some preferring to fish on with a sandwich. Those who did make it were treated to ginger cake by John Clark, one of our regular guests, and later Doreen Gould produced a tin of fruit and cherry cake to celebrate David's birthday the following day.

There was lots of chatter in groups that went on for quite some time but, as always, we tore ourselves away to have another go at tempting a fish out of the fast-flowing water. I am never very successful and spent ages casting to a shoal of Grayling splashing about in the shadows under the far bank but decided to call it a day when David Gould's fishing pal Mike arrived and I suggested he have a go. To my amazement after a few casts I saw his line go taut, his rod bend and we watched as he landed a 4½lb Brown Trout, which turned out to be the best of the day. Later I learned that guest Barry Smith had caught a 2½lb Grayling on a very lightweight rod and tackle. Best PICT member was Gerry Overy who had one Trout and one Grayling.

I turned for home happy but had to wait for the results to be e-mailed to me. It had been a record in every sense – 11 out of the 33 had caught a total of 23 fish, 12 Brown trout and 11 Grayling, which made it a record on all counts.

My thanks go to David Gould for organising it with the fishery, but the biggest thanks must go to the enthusiasm and generosity of all the anglers who made it such a success. Hopefully, someone will come forward and organise an event early this year.



The Organisers



Barry with specimen Grayling



Mike catching his Brown Trout

ANNUAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT - Thursday 16th September 2021

Another testing year for all, but once again the annual PICT Tennis Tournament survives the pandemic and this year, although the hand sanitizers were still prevalent, we did not have to worry about face masks and temperature taking. Also, with the average age of this year's participants the majority were double jabbed with appointments for the boosters up ahead.

We did, however, have a last minute Covid scare as David Kentish got symptoms the day before, but into the breach stepped Rod Benwell, whose duties ended up manifold as his presidency continued into a second year before the handover to Tony Wood, whose pairing with Steve Maher was also broken due to injury.

So, the good news this year was, we had a couple of ladies back in the fold with the reappearance of both my wife and Stephanie Spurr. We also had a lady, Annette Clayton from the annual lunch sponsor Fedrigoni UK, helping throughout the day, and with her help made my day so much easier, thank you Annette.

As you can see from the before picture, we were once again blessed with good weather on the day.

A big thank you as ever for the sponsors of the day, which this year included: Fedrigoni UK for lunch; Iggesund UK for the courts and bar cover; and Mitsubishi HiTec UK for the trophies. We had balls left over from the previous year. Thanks to these guys, as well as the participants, we will be sending a modest donation to PICT - a cheque for £300.00

Now to the tennis...

This year's Wooden Spoon was a play off between the new pairing of Olly Gale and, due to David Kentish's brush with Covid symptoms, our President Rod Benwell who kindly stepped into the breach, against the Ricoh UK pairing of Sam Ayling and Wesley Perks. The outcome was the President had to present the Wooden Spoons to himself and his partner Olly Gale!



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The Johnston Cup semi-final pitched newcomers James and Guy who overcame Sam and Wesley 6-1, whilst the welcome return of JL Hagger and Stephanie Spurr overcame the pairing of my missus Claire and Andy Veasey 6-2 in the other semi. The final was also a convincing 6-2 win as the mixed pairing took the 2021 Johnston Cup.

The Penman Cup ended up with people being paired together for the first time, which pleasantly ended up with one new name going onto the trophies. Jonathan Clay this year could not make it so I paired up his partner Andrew Dunning with Paul Williams. With Tony Wood also recovering from a medical procedure, his partner Steve Maher was paired up with Phil Trudgeon. The semi-finals saw myself and Matt Kidd the two-year holders of the Penman play Phil and Andrew. Matt and I were comfortable at 4-1 in the set as Phil and Andrew just started getting everything back to turn the set around and deservedly reach the final, 7-5. The other semi-final saw another new pairing from Konica Minolta, Paul Atkins and Andy Mitchell, who were very strong in the Round Robin, lose 6-2 to Steve and Paul.

Steve and Paul came out as the worthy Penman Trophy Final Winners in the best of three sets, 6-1, 6-4. Congratulations.



tennis

Once again, with thanks to Northampton Lawn Tennis Club, all that took part, all that sponsored and helped on the day. I look forward hopefully to 2022 with a pandemic free day with you all and hopefully those participants that today missed out along with more newcomers. Some more visuals from the day

I can confirm the date for 2022 is **Thursday 15th September 2022**. So save the date now!

John Vic



Rod Benwell and Olly Gale, Wooden Spoon Winners 2021



JL Hagger and Steph, Johnston Cup Winners



James and Guy, Johnston Cup Runners-up



Steve Maher and Paul Williams, Penman Trophy Winners



Andrew and Phil, Penman Trophy Runners-up



Enjoying a break between play

SHANKS AUTUMN HACK

Aldwickbury Golf Club, Harpenden

– Tuesday, 12th October 2021

Followers of this eminent publication will know of the higher authority networks that our Secretary, Mike 'Kit Kat' Kerlogue, has built up to ensure that our golf days are blessed with calm, dry days. So, it seemed again as 20 enthusiastic golfers (I use both terms loosely) assembled for coffee and bacon baps in the well-appointed lounge of Aldwickbury Golf Club.

Wet gear was carried but not thought to be required as the teams were announced, the dreaded Yellow Ball handed over to the Captains and Kit Kats distributed to those who did not have to refuse on medical grounds.

Team A were the first to tee off under the eye of a very patient marshal who dryly commented that "things can only get better, gentlemen" when no one managed further than 50 yards with their first efforts and Team B were considering whether they had time for another coffee before they could commence their round! We would normally have a photograph of Team C but the technologically challenged Secretary claims his camera inexplicably changed formats

without him noticing and the image has been lost or is now orbiting the space station. As Team C included the Secretary and therefore constituted a selfie this is entirely plausible. Team C comprised of Paul Atkins, Doug Newman, Tim Bowler and Mike Kerlogue.

Team D was Chris Godfrey, Masa and John Vic. Team F, Tony Wood, John Walker and Alan Piper, while Team G comprised Alan Badcock, Mike Gee, Steve Elliott and Chris Bell.

Of this fine body of gentlemen, only Team B managed to hang onto their Yellow Ball for all 18 holes, which probably explained their fraught appearance back in the clubhouse, whereas all other teams looked quite relaxed having lost their balls (there's probably a bawdy musical hall ditty that could be hummed at this point) by the halfway stage.



Team A



Team B



Team D



Team F



Team G



Guest winner John Walker



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Bottles of wine were duly handed out to Keith Spiers, John Turner and Martin Fagan in recognition of their achievement with strict instructions that it was not to happen again.

Having started in fine autumnal weather the storm clouds gathered and light rain, interspersed with monsoon showers, hit the leading group on hole seven and did not look likely to clear quickly, which led to some groups (the optimists without their wet gear) deciding to retire at the halfway point, to seek shelter and warmth at the 19th!

Team A, who had no satnav in their buggy and had been in danger of being in the running for a collective 'Shanker of the Day' trophy for almost playing two incorrect holes – some tee directions being sadly missing, decided to plough on having located the 10th after a short tour.

The reduction in those completing the full 18 holes was undoubtedly a contributing factor to Nigel Howl winning the Steele Bowl for the best score of those with a handicap of 24 or higher. This was as much a surprise to him as the rest of the assembly!

Chris Bell mentioned that he had had a good front nine but had to retire on the tenth as his playing partners walked off. It was mischievously suggested that it might not have had anything to do with the weather!

The Overall Winner with 34 points was John Turner from Tony Wood after the Secretary had employed his abacus on countback.

The Guests' Prize went to John Walker who obligingly made sure that the Captain was in at least four photographs when he collected his wine.

The Steve Beckett Trophy for 'Shanker of the Day' was won by Patrick Carty. We would have liked to have brought you a fifth photo of the Captain presenting the trophy but alas the cup was not in attendance. There was some discussion as to where it was residing but a major diplomatic incident was avoided when Tony Wood made a phone call home and it was 'discovered' under his stairs! Once the

supply chain crisis eases and drivers are available the trophy will be delivered to its new home.

Patrick won the award when VAR and goal line technology ascertained that he needed three attempts to place his tee behind the yellow markers on the 18th. It had been a long day.

Dinner was partaken by all and many better shots were played at table than were in evidence on the course. Our thanks to Aldwickbury Golf Club for looking after us and for having the opportunity to meet safely in these less restricted times.

This was the first SHANKS meeting since the sad death of our friend and colleague Mike 'the Divot' Windett. Mike Kerlogue in his closing remarks said that he was looking into a new award in memory of Mike and that he hoped to advise us of details when we next meet, which is scheduled for 19th May 2022.

Chris Bell thanked 'Kit Kat' for his ongoing efforts to keep SHANKS going and his unfailing good humour in doing so. Hear, hear. £143 was raised for PICT on the day.

Nigel (the Scribe) Howl



Steele Bowl winner, Nigel Howl



Overall winner, John Turner, receives a bottle of fizz

SHANKS are returning to The Drift Golf Club at East Horsley, Surrey in May 2022

The date for your diary is:
Thursday 19th May 2022
Meet at 12 noon for coffee & bacon roll
Tee off from 1.00pm
Two course dinner at 6.30pm approx.
Away after prize giving around 9.00pm

Venue – The Drift Golf Club, East Horsley, Surrey KT24 5HD – just off the M25 junction 10



We last played The Drift in 2007, and recently it has been taken over by the organisation that runs Badgemore Park at Henley-on-Thames, which we played last summer and is one of Shanks favourite courses, so it will be exciting to see what has changed at The Drift in May next year.

Reserve your place now by e-mailing Mike Kerlogue, please note his new e-mail address:
michaelkerlogue@outlook.com or phone mobile 07970 148 056 (no change)

Once again it was not possible to organise a cricket match last summer, however Mike is forever hopeful that he can arrange a game for 2022. He is in fact looking at a new 100 cricket match in line with the new format in June or July.

However, as always, he does need your help in doing so. So, if you are interested in being part of a cricket team, or indeed can get together a team, why not contact Mike.

Just to reiterate, you don't need to be a hot shot cricketer to join – you just need to want to have an enjoyable day out with colleagues and friends in your industry – and most importantly help raise funds for PICT's good causes. Remember, guests are also welcome to join in – so why not get a few mates together and have a fun day out.

As ever, we all agree that it would be great to see cricket back on the PICT sporting agenda.



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charity golf day

As mentioned in the summer newsletter, the Charity Golf Day, another one of PICT's fundraising sporting activities, was again affected by Covid. With the lifting of the earlier lockdown, there was a resurgence of everyone wanting to get out and about, and Fred Haines who organises this event, had great difficulty in trying to book the golf course for the event. However, he is hopeful that he can arrange the golf day for 2022 and as soon as there are any details, he will let everyone know.

In the meantime, if you would like to register your support of this valuable fundraising golf day, or have any question please contact Fred Haines by e-mail: f.haines@icloud.com

Although the 'newly' reformed skiing section has yet to actually go on a skiing trip, its Secretary, Paul Johnston-Knight is not one to give up lightly and is keeping his fingers crossed that he might be able to arrange something for 2022.

So, if you are interested in joining in or would just like further information about the skiing section, please contact Paul to register your interest.

skiing



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Dear PICT members and friends

Hopefully, many of you are already familiar with the mission, objectives and activities of the Paper Industry Charitable Trust.

However, the PICT Trustees are most anxious to continue the spread of our message to as wide an audience as possible. Of course, we are all too aware that in the absence of a major PICT event in the last two years, we have not been able to trumpet our principles to you as loudly as we would have liked.

So, we make no apology for delivering our message here and now.

PICT is here – here to help you, a family member, or a colleague, wherever possible. We have a proud and rewarding history of help given to paper industry connected individuals from these three categories – individuals who may have fallen on hard times through no fault of their own.

Examples of this help given are featured later in this piece.

But we are looking now to the future, and specifically where our assistance might be needed going forward.

A question that we in PICT repeatedly ask ourselves is – Are we confident that you, our audience, know the route to take to register a charitable assistance request from PICT? Frankly, our answer back to ourselves is NO!

We may think that the process to apply to PICT is relatively straightforward, but the onus is clearly in our hands to make that process even simpler.

Accordingly, please let us inform you of the easy way for you to get in touch to register a charitable request.

Please give us:

YOUR NAME
YOUR CONTACT DETAILS – E-MAIL OR MOBILE
WHETHER YOU ARE APPLYING FOR YOURSELF, A FAMILY MEMBER OR A PAPER INDUSTRY COLLEAGUE (PAST OR PRESENT)

This initial information is all we need to commence the process, and should be sent to:
Peter Bothwick (PICT Trustee) – pedrotres@hotmail.co.uk
Or Andy Thompson (PICT Trustee) – andythomps@hotmail.co.uk

Or Anne James (PICT Secretary) – anne@pictuk.com

Or all three! - Better that three of us receive your request than none of us!

Following this initial contact to us, you can be assured that we shall be in touch with you promptly. At the first stage, you might just need some advice on how to move forward with a potential request. PICT can give you that advice, in preparation for a full discussion about your case, whenever you are ready.

Of course, we have some qualifying criteria upon which consideration of a grant from PICT is based. The details of this qualifying information that is given to us shall be regarded as strictly confidential, as will any aspect of discussions with you that we may have.

As promised, here are some of the examples where tangible help from PICT has been given, and made a difference:

EXAMPLE 1

A former paper mill employee was in need of assistance with a structural renovation to their home. The renovation work was essential to enable the individual, and their partner, to achieve full mobility around their home, particularly in the cooking area of their kitchen. We all recognise that hot ovens present a potential danger at any time, but if one is unable to move freely in that area, the dangers increase.

PICT made a contribution towards the corrective work required in the kitchen area, and the improvements were duly carried out successfully. We received a heart-warming message of gratitude from the recipient of our help, telling us that their self-sufficiency and pride had been restored.

EXAMPLE 2

The PICT Trustees were contacted by the family of one individual who had served in the Paper Industry during the 1970s and 1980s.

The individual had unfortunately contracted a severe illness, and was unable to move or sleep without pain.

The request from the family was very specific – they asked if we could provide a specialist medical blanket, which could assist in giving warmth and dedicated comfort.

We were able to source such an item, which was promptly delivered directly to the individual, and, according to the family, gave much needed respite, making the individual's suffering more manageable.

EXAMPLE 3

We were able to support an individual who had fallen into difficult financial times, and was unable to pay an annual rent bill, which required advance payment in full on a due date.

After immediate consideration, PICT was able to provide a short-term loan with a monthly repayment plan, that paid off the original loaned amount.

EXAMPLE 4

Over the last few years, PICT has had a small number of regular beneficiaries, to whom modest financial assistance has been given on a periodic basis.

One such lady recipient, whose husband had worked in the paper industry, sadly passed away in March 2021, at the grand age of 94. The expressions of gratitude by that lady's family have been powerful endorsements and reminders that the work of PICT is so valuable.

In this case, the support offered by PICT enabled our beneficiary to stay in her own home until just before her death, which was what she had wanted above all else. Thanks to the grant from PICT, the lady was able to acquire some home assistance services, which helped her with washing, cleaning, cooking, conversation, and, most importantly, her dignity!

Whilst maintaining confidentiality as always, we were given permission by the lady's daughter to record this case as an example of PICT's great work, indeed with a quote as follows:

"Please give our sincere thanks to the Trustees for the payments to my mother. It would be good for your members to know what a difference the grant had made to her. It has had such a major impact on her life."

EXAMPLE 5

You could perhaps be forgiven for thinking that the requests that we have acted upon have all come from more senior or retired members of our industry. However, this is certainly not always the case.

PICT received a request from a young mother who had to leave work to look after her child who had some behavioural problems. This happened at around the same time as her husband became unemployed!

The child's issues were not straightforward, and, despite seeking advice from doctors and hospitals, progress was limited.

What this family wanted therefore was a one-off financial support to help them to see a private specialist whose expertise was in the area of their child's condition.

PICT considered the request, and with the help of the company where the young mother had worked, we granted a payment to assist. We subsequently received a most gratifying letter from the mother, thanking us for our support, and advising that the consultations were beginning to bear fruit.

EXAMPLE 6

One of our paper industry colleagues fell ill, and required a serious operation with a long stay in hospital, which sadly did not enable a return to work.

After a long period of time, the individual was allowed home, but was confined to a bedroom in their parents' house.

We received a request asking for help in providing various facilities for the bedroom, which the family could not afford. We were only too pleased to grant this, which provided some comfort for the individual and their parents, who had undertaken constant caring duties.

Each of these examples represents an actual instance where PICT assistance was given, and together they clearly demonstrate the versatility of the help available from PICT.

Whether it is modest financial support or specific, tangible pieces of comforting equipment giving quality of life, we are open for consideration of any request.

That is why we hope that everyone who reads this piece will have no inhibitions about contacting PICT for advice and information on registering a charitable request.

You have the contact details to do so, and you also have the guaranteed assurance that any approach shall be completely confidential.

Thank you for reading this bulletin, and please remember that we are ready to assist wherever you might need us.

from the Trustees of PICT



My dear friend Michael Windett passed away on 28th July 2021, aged just 69, after a decade long health battle. For the most part, Mike had courageously dealt with his illness by typically playing it down, and continually behaving as normal. It also seemed that he had conquered the illness several times, such as his dogged determination.

Mike Windett was a true paper man. He started his long and distinguished paper career at Wiggins Teape Paper Merchants in Aldgate. He then moved on to Alfred Quaife Paper Merchants, ultimately achieving a Directorship.

Having next joined Elliott Baxter, one of Mike's proudest achievements within Ebbs was the opening of the new Watford Branch. This Branch has flourished and grown considerably over the years, and although now in a different location, Mike's involvement in the origin of the Branch is not forgotten.

Mike's final paper industry role was as Chairman of The AIMS Group where, as endorsed by all of the individual members of AIMS, his professionalism transformed the Group into the harmonious collective that it is today.

Mike remained as Chairman of AIMS until his retirement in late 2017, but sadly much of his retirement time was taken up with hospital visits and treatments. It is to his eternal credit though that he was always in communication, via telephone, e-mail, WhatsApp etc etc.

Mike had many passions in life, and the Stationers' Social Society (SSS) and PICT contributed significantly to two of them. Mike and I played together in the original SSS cricket team, and he became an integral part of the Society's cricket tours to Denmark and Holland. We also spent many happy Test Match days together, thanks to Mike's membership at Lord's.

Mike was also an early member of Shanks, the PICT golf section for the less accomplished golfer. Mike always enjoyed the Shanks Golf Days, and was so proud to receive his Shanks nickname – 'Divot'. Even during the latter part of his illness when he was unable to play golf, Mike would still turn up at the Shanks events, to wave off the players.

Another passion of Mike's was playing music. He and I enjoyed playing together, which started at a Thursday night folk club, staged by Wiggins Teape. We even formed a paper industry band, three guitars, bass and drums. We called ourselves Tonne less 5! But Mike did also play in a 'proper' band with some friends, often gigging around his local area and beyond!

But it goes without saying that Michael's greatest passion was his family. His dear wife Gill, children Emma, Matthew and Samantha, and eight grandchildren were all naturally very close to Michael. They all supported him during his treatments, and motivated him through the darkest moments of his illness, all of which he cherished.

Michael Windett will be remembered for many things, but mostly he will be remembered for his sense of humour. How to describe it – cheeky, zany, mischievous, provocative – all of the above! Put quite simply, any meeting or time spent with Mike would be guaranteed to leave smiles on faces.

Mike will be greatly missed by all who knew him. We have lost a stalwart of the paper industry, and a diamond of a man.

Peter Bothwick

London Pride Society Luncheon Club - 11th November 2021

On this our 11th (it was all elevens today!) Luncheon, 22 of us met for the first time in two years at our regular venue the Boot & Flogger wine bar in Redcross Way, Southwark. The London Pride Society Luncheon Club meets twice a year, in April and November, to as closely as possible coincide with St George's and the Armistice days respectively. We always meet on a Thursday and 11 years ago, at our first meeting as a luncheon club in 2010, it happened as today to exactly fall on the anniversary of the 1918 Armistice.

We had a grand table set for the 22 of us down in the Ovens, a delightful dining room a level below the ground floor, and our organiser extraordinaire Owen Davies opened the proceedings by welcoming us all to the event. Mike Rust followed telling us of absent friends and sadly of those that had passed away in the intervening two years. Phil Worsley made a toast to the Society and wished for many more lunch meetings such as this.

John Raynor stood and thoughtfully reminded us that Mike Rust's father had recently celebrated his 100th birthday with a telegram

from the Queen duly received. Wonderful stuff. Bev Steele stood and told of his father's experience of the Armistice whilst serving as a front-line soldier in northern Belgium. All of these words were very well received by all those gathered.

As the proceedings ended at the Boot & Flogger, a few of us hardy souls ventured down to the Kings Arms pub in Newcomen Street for a final libation or two and what fun that all was.

I must say on a personal basis how good it was to meet with so many old friends. These LPS Lunches are always good and special but this one seemed a little more than that. Not quite sure why, maybe because of the lapse in time and the general effect of what Covid has done to society in general. Whatever it was this one was very special indeed.

Bev Steele



Mike Rust tells of absent friends



Owen Davies opens the proceedings

paper course 2022

A date has been set in 2022 for the popular Paper Appreciation Course – it is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 16th March. This informative course, organised by Tim Bowler through his company Focal Strength, will be held at the historic Apsley Paper Trail near Hemel Hempstead in Hertfordshire.

This one-day course includes a mix of technical and useful information, along with the chance to see paper being made on a small historic Fourdrinier paper machine. Commenting on the course, the lecturer, John Watson, said: "The objective of this course is not to produce budding papermakers, but for the delegates to better

understand the attributes of the various grades and what they bring to the end-products."

Comments from recent participants include: "Fantastic, enjoyed my day and will definitely recommend" and "This course will help me focus more on the end-users requirements – customer first!"

For further information on the course or to book your place, please contact Tim Bowler on 0115 960 9595; or e-mail: trb@focalstrength.co.uk

in remembrance



On the 11th of the 11th – this time a Thursday – Apsley Paper Trail (APT) once again held a short Act of Remembrance at the war memorial in its garden in Apsley, Hemel Hempstead.

The service was presided over by the vicar from the local St Mary's Church and APT's new CEO, Elena Lewendon, said a few words to those in attendance. Around 35 people were present, made up of APT staff, volunteers and the

heritage fire brigade, along with ex-John Dickinson employees and/or their family members.

The war memorial and garden in Apsley, was originally part of John Dickinson & Company, which alone employed over 5,000 people in 1937 at its Apsley Mills site. The war memorial was erected and unveiled in 1929, as a permanent testament to the sacrifice made by its workers who lost their lives during the war, not only from Apsley but from its London HQ and offices, Croxley, Home Park and Nash Mills.

The majority of paper companies in the UK would have built war memorials to their fallen employees, and although many of these paper mills have long since gone, the war memorials will have survived and will still provide a quiet place where people can reflect and possibly hold a short service each Remembrance Day.

Margaret Curle



Attendees at the service

A letter from The Paper Trail



Well, we're not yet free of the virus, and according to the science we won't be for some time, but we are where we are. Standing still, or indeed reflecting on the past is no formula for progress. As mentioned in the previous PICT newsletter, Apsley Paper Trail (APT) has not been standing still. Since then, a significant addition has been enlisted to head its team. The Trustees are delighted to announce that

Elena Lewendon has joined the Trust as its new Chief Executive Officer.

Elena comes to us with a wealth of museum experience, most recently as Curator of the London Fire Brigade Museum where she was responsible for managing a vast historic collection, extensive archive and historical properties. The role included project managing a major Lottery funded museum redevelopment programme. Her background lies originally in Classics and Archaeology, which she studied at Warwick University, followed by a Master's degree in Cultural Heritage Studies and Archaeological Site Management at the prestigious Institute of Archaeology at University College London.



Elena Lewendon

Elena also acts as an advisor to museums, charities and other organisations on issues of fundraising, achieving and maintaining Arts Council Accreditation and development audiences. She is a serving Director for the Emery Walker Trust, which runs the best preserved Arts and Crafts house in the world, based in Hammersmith, London.

As Chair of the Apsley Paper Trail Trust, I'm thrilled that Elena has come on board. I've been discussing the opportunity with her for two years, and now is the perfect time for it to happen. You can see she brings with her some fantastic skills, which we need to take APT forward. The Board is confident that her passion and enthusiasm for the Gade Valley story and its national and worldwide influence will help us reach the next stage in its development. Elena certainly has the support of our fantastic staff and volunteers who have worked tirelessly through the pandemic to secure the Trust's future.

On the progress with our equipment upgrade, we're now in the commissioning phase of the new electric steam generator and Hollander Beater. Further progress is being made with our wet lap machine and this in spite of material shortages that all industries are suffering! An architect has been engaged to design the new visitor route. The Council has approved the plan, and we now only need the approval of the Heritage Officer who is working with us and is eager to see the architect's presentation. So, fingers crossed all will run smoothly.

Going back to the appointment of Elena, I leave you with her ideas for the future.

"It is wonderful to be part of the Apsley Paper Trail story. The plans for the future are bold, exciting and yes, ambitious. To help us tell the story of paper and its role in our collective past, and undoubtedly our future, we will dramatically expand our work with the community and schools, supporting creativity and the arts as well as science, technology and engineering. We will enhance and develop the visitor experience at Frogmore Mill and ensure that as well as transforming into a carbon neutral organisation, we become a source of education, training and inspiration for the local community and beyond to help us all in the battle against climate change".

Elena and the team join me in wishing you all a pleasant and hopefully trouble-free new year, and just maybe, welcome you as a visitor to our Frogmore Paper Mill in 2022. Stay safe.

John Watson



Steve Fuller - RIP

As mentioned in my Editors' Comment, Steve Fuller, who was head papermaker at Frogmore Paper Mill sadly passed away in 2021. Steve worked at the mill, which was originally owned by The British Paper Company, and become part of Apsley Paper

Trail in 2000, until his retirement a few years ago.

I worked with Steve Fuller when I was at Apsley Paper Trail, and this picture shows Steve inside a drying cylinder on Frogmore's PM2 machine cleaning it out. People were always sceptical that this was a faked picture – but I saw him climb in through this opening and ... I took the picture! fun times! Steve was a great character, as well as being full of knowledge especially about anything paper (and a dedicated Fulham supporter!) He will be sadly missed by all those that knew him.

Margaret Curle

As I mentioned in the Lockdown Anecdotes feature in the Summer newsletter, I would continue these pages under the renamed Members' Anecdotes, but obviously only if I received stories from yourselves and, for this particular issue, our members have risen to the task and I have a plethora of interesting items. So, thank you and keep them coming for future issues.

Reminiscing is always a good subject for an interesting story, especially when the stories emanate from the industry we are all involved in. The first item is from John Watson, and takes an interesting look at the age old 'mill visit'.

Back to front mill tour by John Watson

I'm sure most of us during times of weakness find enthusiasm drowning out what otherwise would be a rational and stable life. Such an event overtook me recently, whether it was the result of drink or the phone call from Mr Trumper informing me he had sold the Morgan I borrowed from him from time to time, I really don't know! Anyway, I decided it was high time I cleaned out our loft, or more accurately, moved the piles of 'must keep' memorabilia from near the entrance of the loft to the dark side.

The process involved the obligatory investigation of everything to ensure it really was worth keeping, or rather not so unimportant that I could bother carrying it down through the hatch and eventually into the boot of the car, where it might join garden rubbish and the broken fork handle on that wonderful journey to the dump, laughingly referred to as the recycling centre.

Damn, sorry, got a bit carried away with the ramblings of an attention seeking oldie there. My intended short anecdote is the result of reading this recent issue of the PICT Newsletter, very informative by the way, and coming across the MEMBERS' ANECDOTES. I thought one item I found squirreled away in the loft might fall into just such a category. By the way, I'm not sure I am a member, but according to my bank statement I am still contributing to the double ton-up (200) club. I hope that counts.

The background to this recent loft find was the result of a few mill tours, well actually just one. Peter Ingram and I would often blag, no! not blag, be invited, to take our customers to supplying mills. It was the usual practice to begin the guided tour at the raw material end, into stock prep, onto the paper machine, into finishing, and finally packing and warehouse. We, however, insisted the tour should begin in the warehouse yielding a familiar site to our customers, pallets or reels of paper. Thus working back through the process explaining at each stage how what we had just seen had been accomplished. You know "the pallet of ream wrapped paper we saw was produced here on this sheeter/packing line" and so on back eventually to the raw material. The tour guide unused to this pathway would often slink off exhausted and a little unwell.

But one such guide, the late Michael Searle, God bless him, the Inside Sales Manager at the then Townsend Hook Paper Mill who received just such a request from me, decided he had to work this confusion

out of his system. One day through the post I received this extremely witty poem. I would like to share it with you:

Mill Visit

For such as me there's nothing worse
Than forward motion in reverse.
Proceeding backwards round the Mill
Requires a cultivated skill,
So o'er the weekend I have tried
To take things backwards in my stride.
When normally the day was done
At nightfall rose the setting sun,
And thus I found myself instead
Arising when 'twas time for bed.
Reading the papers Arab style
Disorientated in a while.
I couldn't understand the cause
Of all those football no-score draws;
For soccer fans there's little thrill
When every match result's nil-nil.
I said above there's nothing worse
Than forward motion in reverse,
But counter-clockwise is a way
Of getting younger every day!

Michael Searle

What a great story John, and having done quite a lot of mill tours myself and occasionally with journalists who hadn't got a clue about papermaking (yes, I did meet some!), so I can see some of the logic in the backward method of looking at a mill's process. And now another interesting tale from the industry.

Reminiscence – 100 years plus by Mike Kerlogue



Having completed 50 years plus in the paper trade – 1962 to 2014, it brought into reality that the name Kerlogue has been associated with our great industry for even longer, as my grandfather, Charles Mawby Kerlogue, served in the trade from 1895 to 1949. And not many people know that!!

To commemorate 50 years, my grandfather was presented with a silver salver in 1945 at a luncheon held at the Connaught Rooms in London, which had been engraved with signatures of many notable

people from mills and merchants. Some of those names will be remembered by a few of us and also the Companies that they represented – which hopefully can be seen from the photo accompanying this article – such as L S and L R Humphries, H V Beaver, Robert Hall, Walter Makin, J A Rowlandson, F H Lewellyn Thomas, George Pizzey, R A Chell and many more.

When I entered the paper trade, firstly with Wiggins Teape, it wasn't until I joined T B Ford as a salesman that I met somebody who knew my grandfather and I recall that was Ken Worsley, who sadly passed away recently. But he remembered having to visit Henry Bruce & Sons in the City where Charles was London manager to collect outturn samples from their Edinburgh Mills.

It is amazing in retrospect that a lavish lunch of turtle soup / roast lamb / compote of fruit was possible in 1945, which was towards the end of the Second World War, proof that regardless of circumstances the paper trade will soldier on.

Charles started his career with the agents John Gordon & Co Ltd, which represented the Bruce and Westfield Mills in Scotland and Trinity Mills in Lancashire, and when Inveresk was formed John Gordon became part of the Group and Charles became London Manager – retiring in 1949.

My route into paper wasn't a direct involvement by my grandfather, who sadly passed away soon after retiring in 1952, but was by way of a booklet that I came across when I was finishing schooling that somehow my father had retained – Glossary of Paper Terms – and in that booklet, which I still have, was mention of paper sizes – Royal, Pinched Post, Quad Crown, Double Elephant, Imperial, etc – what idyllic names to mesmerize a young lad. And as they say the rest is just history !!

Well, thank you Mike for this interesting story – and yes I agree I have always thought the paper sizes sound so wonderful – I just love Double Elephant!! It's such a shame they are not in general use today.

Another member that has led such an interesting life is Bev Steele. He has sent me, once again a great story, this time adventures with one of his great loves – a classic car.

Europe viewed from a low seat by Bev Steele

Long before they coined the term 'petrol head' I have been one since my earliest days, which morphed into an interest in the more modest classics. A year before retirement in 2001, I bought a 1980 MG B Roadster for not a lot of money and not in the best condition but after a bit of work, fitting an electronic ignition was the main one, it became a good runner and a lot of fun. We had already made a few trips across Europe in it, each 3,000 miles plus, prior to embarking on this adventure. It proved to be the last big one in it as I sold it in 2008 and bought a Morgan - a bird of quite a different feather.

I wrote an extended version of the following for the MG Owners Club magazine, which they published but it was too long for here so this is the brutally précised version of what went on.



The background was, we had friends living in Brittany and others near Trebic in the Czech Republic, so a fair bit of real estate between the two. Tracking through it proved eventful and exciting and went something like this...

"On Tuesday 31st May 2007, Evelyn and I drive down to Portsmouth and board the overnight Brittany Ferry to St Malo. Disembarking at 8.30am, we gently roar down the 120 miles west to Brittany staying two nights on the rugged coast. On leaving, it was south to Nante in wet weather, then east along the south side of the Loire valley. What a joy that was with top down in glorious weather. A night in Talon near Angers. With just bed and breakfast booked, it required a search for dinner. Upon advice we found a truck stop a short drive away. The scene inside was worthy of a film. A bunch of characters from across the Continent made for a stimulating and noisy night. The food from a limited menu was French country-style and very good, with unlimited vin rouge ordinaire from the barrel at the end of the room brought to the table in jugs, which never ran dry. I really should have walked back to the accommodation! Next day, we continue to follow the Loire via Saumur and Villandry. Any previous recollection I had of these places was entirely from wine bottle labels. We took a wrong turn in busy Tours, which seemed to be a town without signs. Getting out of the place in the right direction was a bit of a trick, then on to our friends at Avigny, a tiny village in deepest Burgundy for a two night stay. The food and wine were on a distinctly different level from that of the truck stop.



On to Belancon and our last night in France, the next day it was over the Jura into Switzerland. A lovely drive along the Orbe Valley giving

our first glimpses way off of snow-clad alps. On the road alongside Lake Geneva through Lausanne, we decide we needed a break from the wheel and took a top floor room for three nights in a high-rise hotel overlooking the lake in Montreux. With the MG safely stashed in the underground car park, it was fish suppers, walks along the lake, steamer trips all in good weather but sadly too early for Jazz Festival.

Blinking like pit ponies, we pull out of the hotel's underground car park very early to head over the mountains via the Furka Pass, which was an experience. Very steep, not suited to anything much bigger than us, we zig zag up to its 8,000 feet summit with the engine running hot and weak owing to the elevation. It was good to get down the other side but our route included both the St Gottard and the Julier Passes, which we seemed to somehow manage better. Then St Moritz and our last night in Switzerland at Zenez, crossing the border into Austria at Landreck. It was a joy driving along the banks of the Inn and a stay at a St Johann hotel with a pool and stunning views of Kitzbühl.

Next day towards Linz and our approach to the Czech Republic's southern border, we take a diversion to Berchtesgarden, Hitler's place in the country. Passing Linz on a fast road, the engine temperature gauge climbed inexorably into the red despite the cooling fan blowing mightily. A nasty tinkling noise from the water pump meant the bearing had run dry so a quick exit up to a pub with a car park and a call to Green Flag. Within an hour, a flat-bed truck pulled into sight taking us back into Linz, where we spend an uncertain night not knowing whether a water pump that fits a BMC B series engine could be found. There is good news in the morning and with the pump fitted it was back on the road again. With a close eye on the temperature gauge all was well and we cross the Czech border into the mother and father of all hail storms showering us with shrapnel-like inch wide chunks of ice. Czech roads are generally very bad, full of badly mended pot holes making an uncomfortable journey through to our destination of Trebic.

Trebic is a delightful old town with Hapsburg overtones and much baroque architecture on the River Jihlava. Traditionally its business was leather goods, boots and shoes, horse tack etc, and paper making. Today, with its big square and painted facades, it is a UNESCO site of special interest.

A week with friends exploring the region and the beautiful and tourist neglected beauties of Bohemia and Moravia. So many visitors just go to Prague never seeing the rest of it. The unexplored small cities such as Cesky-Krumlov and Telc are unspoiled gems. Not wishing to be seen as an agent for the Czech Tourist Board I will quit here, but we have been back many times since this trip both in my later two-seaters and in modern diesels and always find somewhere new and surprising.

The trip back was north out of CZ into Germany at Chemnitz. A night in the deep forests of Brothers Grimm country, then on through Germany via Erfurt to Aachen and the joys of the Brussels Ring, a maelstrom of trucks and not for the faint hearted. A night on the

Belgian coast, then a quick hop down to Dunkirk and the ferry home. How strange it seemed driving on the left of the road after close to a month away.

The trip had been totally 2,801 miles, one pint of oil used, not bad considering we had belted up and down several mountains and the only reportable incident was the water pump failure. I noted in the original article that our lasting impression was of the kindness of strangers, a truth indeed. As Sinatra once sang "It's nice to go travelling" ... and it is.

Thanks Bev for that story it conjures up lovely scenery and all sounds great fun.

Another of our regulars, George Fowler, has again furnished us with his stories of the insect world.

A bug's life by George Fowler

It has been a very poor year on the angling front with just the one outing for PICT to the River Test but some promises of events for 2022 but no dates forthcoming as yet. I live in hope!

On the insect front it has been a very good year for moths and also hoverflies but very much quieter on the bug front, the latter disappearing after the very wet May, which makes me wonder whether anyone else keeps track of the weather like I do, largely as a necessary requirement to my interest in all things natural.

May 2021 showed a rainfall of 132mm in my part of Hertfordshire compared with an average over the last eight years of 59.1mm, no wonder the bugs disappeared!

Whenever possible I put out my moth trap and in 2021 it was out 72 times and caught approximately 1,820 moths of many different species, new ones being seen frequently. Rest assured it is not a trap in the normal sense of the word, just a light to attract them overnight, before they are released the following morning.

The hot summer months are when the most moths are on the wing but even at the end of the year there are appropriately named November and December moths still about. If you have a light on outside keep a lookout for them.

When we start to look forward to the heat of summer, mowing lawns, walks in the countryside, etc, one can start to think of Grass-veneers, small moths that readily take to the air at the approach of footsteps. It is well worth spending a few minutes looking at these as they have beautiful markings even though they are only 10-15mm long. They love to cling on to blades of grass and will often bury themselves to avoid being trodden on.

Take a look at the following photos and look out for them this year. I would love to hear from anyone who spots them. Don't forget to carry a camera at all times, you never know when you will see something creep, crawl or fly in front of you. Enjoy nature!



Grass-veneer, Chequered



A green cricket



Grass-veneer, Common



Knot grass moth



Grass-veneer, Garden

Well readers, once again I hope you found these stories from our members of interest and remember if you have any entertaining or intriguing stories or tales, please do e-mail them to me and I will include them in the next newsletter.



Grass-veneer, Pearl



A selection of wooden printing blocks

Another interesting item from George, so remember to keep your eyes peeled. And again, I have taken a leaf out of George's book and found a couple of interesting specimens in the garden. Firstly, a cricket was crawling around on our Borage plant, and then to my surprise a brightly coloured caterpillar appeared on the nasturtiums – I looked this one up and I believe it could be a Knot Grass Moth.

I have also been taking time out and doing more block printing – and this time I decided to take a stall at Apsley Paper Trail's Christmas Fair at Frogmore Mill. I printed various items including Christmas cards, tea towels and bags, and sold these along with some of my homemade jams and biscuits. I'm not sure if I see this as a career move, but it was great fun.



Craft stall at Frogmore Mill

Margaret Curle

200 Club – it could be you!!



The 200 Club is now an established institution, which helps raise much needed funds for PICT. At the last committee meeting, which was held as a conference call in October, the draw was held and the winners are as follows:

1st	£250	Tracey Campbell
2nd	£100	Bev Steele
3rd	£50	Warren Board - donated back to PICT

If you fancy joining the 200 Club and being in with a chance of winning, please contact Anne James by e-mailing: anne@pictuk.com, who will send you further information and a form to complete. It's as easy as that.

And it is worth remembering that you can either join in as an individual or perhaps your company may wish to get involved and block buy some shares. The shares are just £25 per year, and make a much-needed contribution to PICT's funds.

Really it's a win:win situation – you could win in one of the draws and PICT wins by being able to help those in need. Go on – contact Anne now and sign up! You never know at the next draw it could be you!

annual lunch reminder

Order your lunch tickets now!

Remember the good times and what it was like to go out and enjoy yourself? To mix with colleagues and friends and have a laugh? You can do this all again on Friday 11th March 2022 at the PICT Annual Lunch. You too can be part of this great event, which includes that fun game 'Heads and Tails' as well as being able to have a bet with colleagues on how long the President's speech will last!

So don't forget to contact PICT's Secretary, Anne James (e-mail: anne@pictuk.com), to secure your tickets to the PICT Annual Lunch and what, we all hope will be, a great fun 'bit of a do'.

All of us at PICT hope you will be able to join us and support this very worthwhile charitable event, while enjoying good food, fine wine and plenty of networking with friends and colleagues old and new. See you all in March!

Margaret Curle



Timing the President's speech!



The entertaining Heads and Tails

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